

CLAIMS:

1. An air-bag arrangement comprising an air-bag, and a gas generator to generate gas to inflate the air-bag, the gas generator being hingedly connected to a support so as to be moveable between a closed position in which part of the gas generator extends across an aperture communicating with the interior of the air bag to close the aperture, and a second position in which said aperture is opened to permit the flow of gas from the air-bag, the gas generator initially being retained in the closed position by a retainer, the retainer being actuatable, in response to a signal, to enable the gas generator to move hingedly to the open position.
2. An air-bag arrangement according to Claim 1 wherein the retainer is actuated by a pyrotechnic charge.
3. An air-bag arrangement according to Claim 1 or Claim 2 wherein the retainer includes at least one catch which initially extends over part of a flange carried by the gas generator, the retainer also including an arrangement to move the or each catch to a position in which it does not extend over the flange of the gas generator.
4. An arrangement according to Claim 3, wherein the or each catch comprises an elongate element pivotally mounted at one end adjacent part of the flange, the or each catch overlying the flange and being arranged so that

actuation of a piston-and-cylinder arrangement will cause the catch to move to a position in which it no longer overlies the flange.

5. An arrangement according to Claim 4, wherein two said catches are provided.
6. An arrangement according to Claim 3, wherein the or each catch is provided with a substantially centrally located pivot, a first part of the catch to one side of the pivot engaging with the flange the other part of the catch being located adjacent a piston-and-cylinder device, such that movement of the piston will cause rotation of the catch to a position in which said first part of the catch no longer engages the flange.
7. An air-bag arrangement according to Claim 1 or 2 wherein the retainer comprises an exploding bolt.
8. An arrangement according to Claim 1 or 2 wherein the retainer comprises a piston-and-cylinder unit arranged to engage and move part of a flange carried by the gas generator so as to move the gas generator to the open position.
9. An arrangement according to Claim 1 or 2 wherein the retainer comprises an expandable element which engages part of a flange carried by the gas generator, the expandable element, on expansion thereof, serving to move the gas generator to the open position.
10. An arrangement according to claim 9, wherein the expandable element is plastically deformable.

11. An arrangement according to claim 9 or 10, wherein the expandable element comprises a bellows arrangement provided with a pyrotechnic device.